

## Paris Motor Show Crowds Linger for Other Gayeties

Theatres Give Strangers Means of Enjoying an Evening Regardless of Quality of the Play—Races a Popular Diversion.

By MAY BIRKHEAD.

Special Correspondence to THE NEW YORK HERALD.

PARIS, Oct. 24.

PARIS is busy by day and gay by night. The automobile show, more than any one event,

seems to have pulled the throttle wide open and brought in thousands of people from the provinces and as many foreigners. To be sure it closed its doors a week ago and the capital has almost forgotten that the Grand Palais had ever housed an automobile, but the crowds which it drew are still lingering on to enjoy something more of Paris than the motor show. The theatres are putting on new plays every week, few of which, by the way, are really good, but they give the strangers the means to enjoy an evening and foreigners like going to French theatres regardless of the quality of the play.

All of the foreigners finish their week in Paris by going to the races on Sunday, so Longchamps has been a continuation of its Grand Prix day. Such crowds have never been known at the autumn races. The racing world has turned out in full force because the sport itself has been above the average; the delightful weather has lured as many more thousands who were only seeking amusement in the open air, and the fashion votaries, always in pursuit of something new, have doubled their forces in using Longchamps for their winter hunting ground.

Even the Communist demonstration and threatened trouble of last Sunday, which caused the city to be filled with troops, did not keep the people from the races. On the contrary, it had the opposite effect. It seemed that all Paris turned out to see the troops and to learn

the news on the spot if there were any more bomb outrages, and when nothing exciting happened they proceeded to the races. Better sport could not be desired and the card was as good on the whole as the previous Sunday, when the Prix du Conseil-Municipal and the Grand Critérium drew such tremendous crowds. The attendance was smarter than it had been all season and the fashion critics were glad to at last find something worth while.

Clothes Become Autumnal.

Clothes at Longchamps for the last two Sundays have become autumnal. The number of short fur jackets worn was the one new feature to be remarked. There was a smart tape costume, composed of a skirt and short jacket, and there were dozens of short tape jackets worn with crepe dresses or separate skirts of velours de laine. In fact, there were so many tape coats and jackets that one would have thought all the women in Paris had made a trip to Vienna, where it is reported that fur wraps are so exceptionally cheap.

Mrs. Henry T. Allen, wife of the General commanding the American troops on the Rhine, has just returned from Vienna with her sister, and they say that the first thing any foreign woman does when she reaches the Austrian capital is to visit the fur shops to buy a mole skin coat almost before she is settled in her hotel. One can have a beautiful long coat in Vienna for \$50 or \$60, so it is not surprising that all who come from that direction are bundled in tape.

Mole skin, however, was not the only fur to be seen in these new short jackets at Longchamps. One termine was smart worn with a black cloth skirt and a black hat trimmed with a band of ermine around the crown. And there were any number of squirrel jackets and short capes. The first designer from Worth's wore a short squirrel cape

which extended just below the hips. Mine, Lanvin wore a short coat in brown fur which reached scarcely beyond the waist line. It was so short that it was almost bolero in effect and was loose and baggy and had large loose sleeves. She wore a plain and narrow skirt of brown velours de laine and a plain felt hat without trimming, and, of course, brown shoes and stockings. Two or three of the jackets were belted, but the majority hung perfectly straight without a break from shoulder to hip.

These short fur jackets are smart enough for the first autumn days at the races, but they are not warm enough for cold weather, so the fashion will probably not endure beyond November.

Tendency for Short Costumes.

There has been much more of a tendency at Longchamps recently for simple little sports costumes. Instead of the more dressy crepe de chine of the summer season. Some of the tailor made were good last Sunday. There were many gray or tan mixed suitings worn with plain felt or velvet hats and smart fur pieces, silver fox being the most favored. One of the most striking "tailleurs" was worn by Mme. Renee in black velours de laine. The skirt was narrow and plain and not too long. The jacket was loose and bloused over a very long waistline, which was marked by a narrow belt closely fitted around the hips. The waistline was so long that the part below the belt appeared to be little more than a pleum about three or four inches in width.

Another smart tailor made was in black velvet much on the same lines with a belt of squirrel crushed around the hips. Black in winter fabrics, and especially black velvet worn with fur, a sable or silver fox neckpiece, is invariably good style. The dressmakers sold the fashion writers for insisting that black continues to be worn, but if the truth must be told there is no getting away from the fact that every Sunday at Longchamps the crowd has been nothing more than a sea of black. And the same is to be said of the afternoon frocks at the 16 dancings, which are drawing swarms of people with the first chilly days.

One scarcely ever sees a dress of color among the dancers despite the fact that black has been cried down from every source where clothes are made or discussed. It is true that no color, if black may be counted as such, is so difficult to keep fresh. Nothing is more dull than a black frock after it has lost its freshness, and it loses that quality with but

two or three wearings, and nothing looks more brilliant than a new well made black suit. Black demands the best of care. It too easily becomes dusty looking and one is likely to look run-down and uncleanest every detail is carefully guarded, and all of these reasons are repeatedly given for discarding black but the French woman goes on wearing it regardless of all arguments. Whatever else is said of it she insists that her complexion looks better in black and whatever the quality of her hair she looks of the best with a dark background and it is evident that she has absolutely no intention of giving it up.

Bright Colored Hats Disappear.

It was interesting to note at the races last Sunday that the first days of autumn are killing the bright colored hats which have been extensively worn with black dresses, and all black is holding sway in millinery. Rather severe plain felt hats were to be seen; some of them plain satins with a dull ribbed flat around the crown, and some not little toques with a fancy pin stuck through the crown. Those that were trimmed had unbecomingly large feathers hanging in all directions, falling off from the brim or sticking up from the crown or hanging down the back or covering the eyes. And there were a few fur toques worn with the fur jackets, but the felt hats with fur or ostrich trimming were more favored, and they were always black.

The combination of a the dancings and a fashion show where women can sip their tea, dance their dance and see the very latest creations from the big dressmakers without being annoyed with the prattle of a "rendezvous" who insists upon your purchasing something that you don't want is an innovation that all of Paris is looking to see. For the last two weeks the restaurant Grand Vatel in the rue Saint-Honore, has been giving gala teas on Tuesdays and Fridays when some three or four models from the leading dressmakers are shown. Last Friday Madeleine & Madeleine displayed three new creations. Three mannequins marched in one at a time and paraded with their costumes just as they do in the show rooms, and afterward joined the dancers, thus giving the onlookers the opportunity of closely examining the models, and proving to the same time that there are more ways than one of enticing women into dressmaking establishments these days.

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Lose Sales Through Confusion.

The dressmakers have begun to realize that they often lose sales through this confusion, so this way of showing their models at a fashionable restaurant at the tea hour is a happy thought for all concerned. All three of the costumes that Madeleine displayed at the Grand Vatel were exceedingly smart, but had they been of a most ordinary type the surroundings were so pleasant that women immediately forgot that they had ever fretted about clothes. And seeing but three models is likely to inspire one with a desire to see more; thus they are drawn from the tea room to the shop.

With the fall in temperature there were more animated dinner parties than so far this season at the last Fita dance. Mrs. William Diction of Philadelphia gave a dinner of eighteen covers, when her guests included among others the Brazilian Ambassador to London Senior and Senhora da Gama, Miss Eliza Maxwell, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Eate, Mr. and Mrs. Morris Volke, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Van Heukelom, Col. Winslow and Mr. Edward Montgomery. Miss Maxine Elliott, the actress, was with a party of friends. Mr. and Mrs. Alfred E. Cortis, who have recently come to Paris to reside, entertained Mrs. Eliza Jessup, Mr. William Roach and Mr. James P. Ryan. Other Americans with parties were Mrs. Herman Franch and her daughter, Mrs. Henry Whitton, Mr. and Mrs. John A. McVickar, Cora Countess of Stafford, Mrs. Benjamin Thaw and her son, Mr. Benjamin Thaw, Jr., who is attached to the American Legation in Warsaw and is here on leave. Others were General and Mrs. Henry T. Allen, Mr. and Mrs. M. E. Bushford, Mr. and Mrs. Virgil Neal, Mr. and Mrs. Certinard F. Bishop, Dr. and Mrs. Hamilton Rice, who have but recently arrived in Paris; Mr. Harry Oulrich, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Phillips and Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Mortimer.

A big Spanish dinner party was given by Senora de Galinza in honor of Duque and Duquesa de Alba, who have recently arrived in Paris to pass some weeks. The other guests were Duque and Duquesa de Allaga, Duque and Duquesa Durcal, Senorita de Galinza, Senor E. Martinez de Hoz and Senor Anor de Anchorena.

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